

Amendments to the Claims

The following Listing of Claims replaces all previous listings of claims.

1. (Original) A cassette construct for preparing an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence consisting of an adaptor sequence, a spacer sequence, and an inverted sequence of the adaptor sequence.
2. (Original) The cassette construct according to claim 1, wherein the spacer sequence is an intron sequence.
3. (Currently amended) The cassette construct according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein either or both ends of the cassette construct are pretreated for target sequence binding.
4. (Currently amended) The cassette construct according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to~~ 3, which comprises a target sequence bound thereto at its either or both ends.
5. (Original) A method for preparing an amplification product comprising an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence via PCR with the use of the cassette construct according to claim 4 as a template and a single primer derived from a sequence at either end of the target sequence.

6. (Original) A method for preparing an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence via PCR with the use of the cassette construct according to claim 4 as a template.

7. (Original) A plasmid comprising the cassette construct according to claim 4 incorporated therein.

8. (Original) A method for preparing an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence via PCR with the use of the plasmid according to claim 7 as a template.

9. (Original) The method for preparing an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence according to claim 8, wherein PCR is asymmetric PCR.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 8 ~~or 9~~, wherein a 3' end of a primer used in PCR contains a spacer sequence.

11. (Currently amended) An expression vector comprising the inverted repeat sequence of the target sequence prepared by the method according to ~~any one of~~ claims claim 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10.

12. (Original) A host cell transformed with the expression vector according to claim 11.

13. (New) The cassette construct according to claim 2, wherein either or both ends of the cassette construct are pretreated for target sequence binding.

14. (New) The cassette construct according to claim 2, which comprises a target sequence bound thereto at its either or both ends.

15. (New) The cassette construct according to claim 3, which comprises a target sequence bound thereto at its either or both ends.

16. (New) The method according to claim 9, wherein a 3' end of a primer used in PCR contains a spacer sequence.

17. (New) An expression vector comprising the inverted repeat sequence of the target sequence prepared by the method according to claim 6.

18. (New) An expression vector comprising the inverted repeat sequence of the target sequence prepared by the method according to claim 8.

19. (New) An expression vector comprising the inverted repeat sequence of the target sequence prepared by the method according to claim 9.

20. (New) A cassette construct for preparing an inverted repeat sequence of a target sequence, the construct comprising an adaptor sequence, a spacer sequence, and an inverted sequence of the adaptor sequence, wherein the spacer sequence is between the adaptor sequence and the inverted sequence of the adaptor sequence.